

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-SEVENTH SYNOD

OF THE

Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium

OF

THE STATE OF NEW-YORK,

AND ADJACENT PARTS.

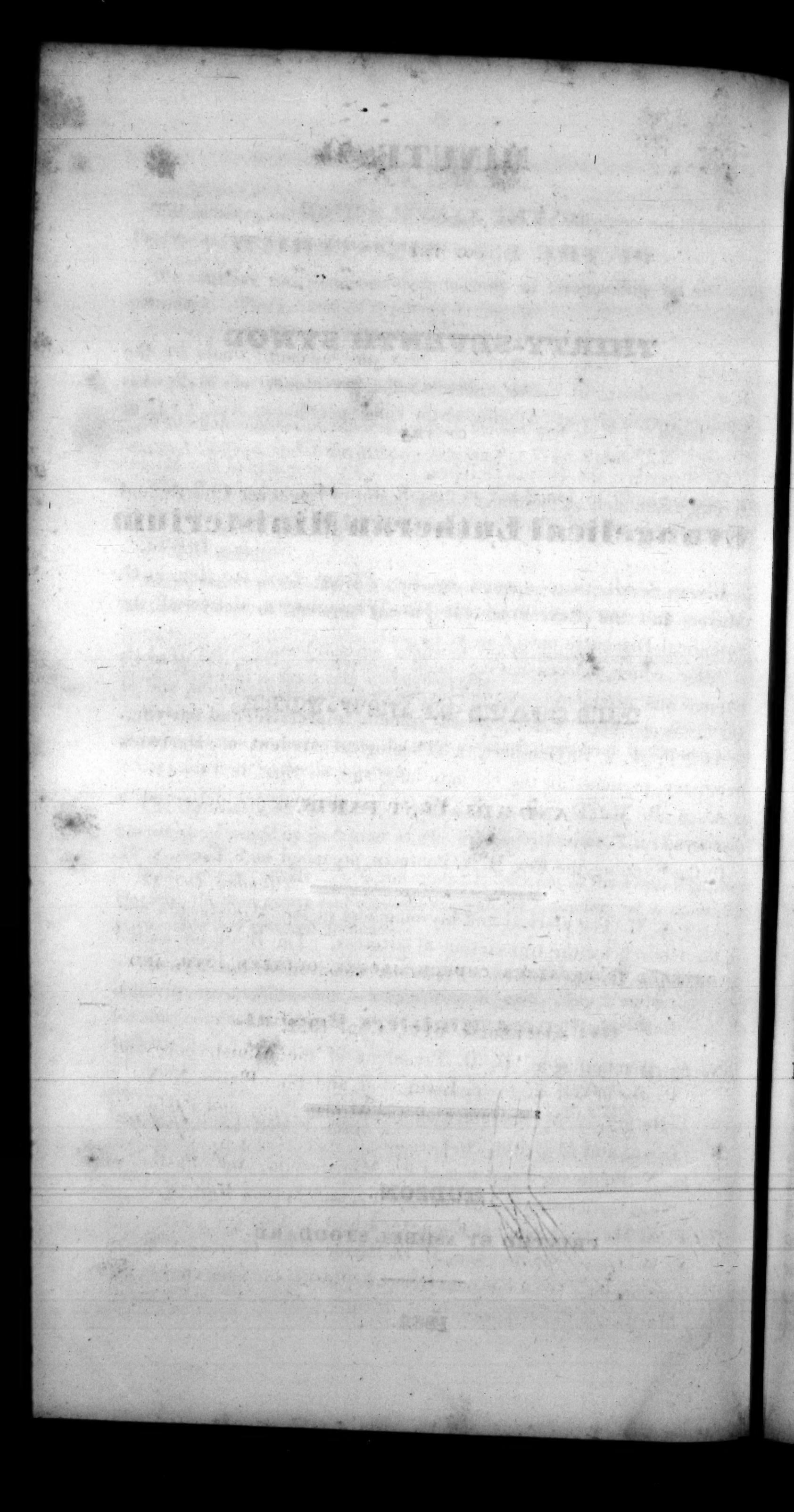
CONVENED IN EBENEZER CHURCH, ALBANY, OCTOBER 13TH, AND

SUCCEEDING DAYS, A. D. 1832.

HUDSON:

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1832.



MINUTES
OF THE XXXVII SYNOD
OF THE E. L. MINISTERIUM
OF THE STATE OF NEW-YORK AND ADJACENT PARTS.

The Synod convened agreeably to a postponement made by the Rev. President, in consequence of the prevalence of Malignant Cholera in the city of Albany, at the time specified in Res. XVII of the last Synod.

On Saturday, the 13th of October, 1832, the members of the Ministerium assembled at the house of the pastor of Ebenezer Church, and were by him, directed to their respective lodgings.

Sunday, Oct. 14.

Divine Service was opened by the *Pastor Loci*, the Rev. F. G. Mayer, and the Rev. President Dr. Wackerhagen, delivered the Synodical Discourse on 2 Cor. v. 14—21.

After which, notice having been previously given, the Lord's Supper was administered to the members of the Ministerium, and of the Congregation. The scene was solemn, impressive, and edifying.

At 2 P. M. J. P. Haesbert, a Theological student of Hartwick Seminary, preached in the German language, on Eph. iii. 14—21.

At 3 P. M. The Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, jr, delivered a discourse on Rom. i. 16.

In the Evening, the Rev. H. N. Pohlman, preached on 1 Thess. v. 21.

Monday, Oct. 15.

At 9 A. M. The clerical and lay-members of the Ministerium met in the Church for the transaction of business. The Brethren united in singing a Hymn, and the President constituted the Synod by prayer.

Ordained Ministers Present.

Rev. A. Wackerhagen, D. D. President of the Ministerium, and Pastor of Germantown, Livingston, and Pine Plains, N. Y.

" J. Berger, A. M. Secretary of the Ministerium, and Pastor of Ghent and Millville, N. Y.

" H. N. Pohlman, Treasurer of the Ministerium, and Pastor of New Germantown, German Valley, and Spruce Run, N. J.

" F. G. Mayer, Pastor of Ebenezer Church, Albany.

" F. W. Geissenhainer, sen. D. D. Pastor of the German Congregation of the "United German Lutheran Churches," St. Matthew's, New York city.

**Rev. P. W. Domeier, —— Dilleburg, Manheim, and Tuckers-
bush, N. Y.**

- " **J. Z. Senderling, —— Brunswick and Schaghticoke, N. Y.**
- " **Wm. J. Eyer, —— Pastor of Wurtemburgh, Dutchess co.
N. Y.**
- " **F. W. Geissenhainer, jr. Eng. Cong. of the U. G. L. Churches,
St. Matthew's, New York city.**
- " **Wm. D. Strobel, Pastor of St. James', New York city.**
- " **H. I. Smith, Pastor of Saddle River and Ramapo, N. J.**
- " **C. A. Smith, Pastor of Palatine and Stone-Arabia, N. Y.**

Licentiates.

**L. Swackhammer, Osquack, Reimschneider's Bush, and Anders-
town.**

Wm. Pirscher.

Lay Representatives.

Thomas Smith, Albany.

Bastian C. Lasher, Germantown and Livingston.

Philip Ford, Millville and Ghent.

John Haas, Ger. Cong. St. Matthew's.

Jeremiah N. Smith, Dilleburg, &c.

Martin Springer, Brunswick, &c.

Frederic Dederick, Wurtemburgh.

Augs. F. Cammeyer, Eng. Cong. St. Matthew's.

Ph. W. Engs, St. James'.

Daniel Saltzman, Palatine, &c.

J. P. Haesbert, Hartwick.

John Wright, Osquack, &c.

Clerical Members Absent.

Rev. P. F. Mayer, D. D. with excuse.

" J. F. G. Uhl,	do
" J. W. Starman,	do
" G. B. Miller,	do
" F. H. Guinther,	do
" H. Hayunga,	do
" C. B. Thuemmel,	do

Licentiate, Charles E. Denninger,* do.

* From the Rev. Licentiates Parochial Report, it appears that he is pastor of the German Lutheran congregations of Leray and Pamela, and of the French Protestant congregations of Evans Mills and Mexico-Colosse, Oswego co.

Congregations not Represented.

Rhinebeck, Churchtown, N. Y. Williamsburgh and Osnabruck, U. C. and Waldoboro' Me.

Leray, Pamela, Evans Mills, and Mexico-Colosse, N. Y.

The Rev. President then read his Report, (*See Appendix A.*) which was accepted, and together with letters No. 1—4, laid on the table. The Secretary handed in a communication respecting the Licentiate C. E. Denninger, No. 5.

The following proceedings of Sister Synods were presented for distribution, viz :

9 Copies of the minutes of the Synod of Ohio.

18	do	Pennsylvania.
12	do	West Pennsylvania.
10	do	Virginia.
4	do	South Carolina.

Letters No. 1, 2, 3, 4 contained written apologies from the Revds. J. W. Starman, C. B. Thuemmel, H. Hayunga, and C. E. Denninger, for their non-attendance. Verbal apologies were likewise offered by The President, in behalf of Dr. Mayer.

by the Secretary, of Rev. J. F. G. Uhl, and

by Mr. Strobel, of " F. H. Guinther.

The Rev. G. B. Miller, laid before the Synod his apology through J. P. Haesbert, the delegate of his congregation. Whereupon, it was, on motion

I. *Resolved*, That Dr. Mayer, Rev. Messrs. Starman, Uhl, Miller, Guinther, Hayunga, Thuemmel, and Denninger, be excused for non-attendance of this Synod.

Communication, marked No. 5, being of a private nature, was referred to the ministerial session.

The minutes of the other Synods were referred to a committee consisting of the Revds. Geissenhainer, jr. H. I. Smith, Strobel, and delegates Engs and Haesbert.

The Rev. Treasurer remarked that he had on the 20th of Nov. last dedicated his new church at New Germantown, to the service of Almighty God; and that on the 11th of July last, he had laid the corner-stone of a new church, in his congregation at German Valley; and on the 11th of August, the corner-stone of another church, about 6 miles from the former, to be built by Presbyterians and Lutherans, in conjunction. He also remarked that the church at German Valley would (God willing) be dedicated to God the Father, Saviour and Comforter, on Lord's day, the 28th of October, where the brethren are respectfully invited to attend.

Rev. J. D. Lawyer, appeared and presented to the President, 6 copies of the proceedings of the Hartwick Synod—referred to the committee on minutes.

The Rev. Wm. D. Strobel, gave notice that he intended to introduce a series of resolutions respecting the formation of some plan to educate young men for the ministry.

The Treasurer delivered his accounts for inspection. Committee for that purpose, Dr. Geissenhainer, Rev. Strobel, and Mr. Engs.

Parochial Returns.

	Bap- tisms.		Post Offices.
	Infants.	Adults.	
Rev. J. Berger,	135	3	Clermont, Columbia Co. N. Y.
" H. N. Pohlman,	56	5	Claverack, Columbia Co. N. Y.
" F. G. Mayer,	124	3	New Germantown, Hunterdon Co. N. J.
" F. W. Geissenhainer, jr. }	31	—	Albany.
Dr. Geissenhainer,	89	—	New York city, Broome-st. 509.
P. W. Domeier,	66	—	do
" J. Z. Senderling,	50	21	Stone Arabia, Montgomery Co. N. Y.
" Wm. J. Eyer,	55	—	Troy, N. Y.
" Wm. D. Strobel,	30	7	Rhinebeck Flats, Dutchess Co. N. Y.
" H. I. Smith,	34	2	New York city, Broadway 439.
" H. Hayunga,	28	—	do
" L. Swackhamer,	51	—	New Prospect, Bergen Co. N. J.
" C. E. Denninger,	20	5	Waddington, St. Lawrence Co. N. Y.
	—	—	Van Hornesville, Herkimer Co. N. Y.
	—	—	Evans Mills, Jefferson Co. N. Y.
	767	39	168
	222	2398	300
	168	1065	500

* Both Independent Schools.

† 60 Catechumen.

‡ Religious Instruction and Catechisation.

The following contributions were made to

the Synodical & Missionary Funds.

Albany,	per Thos. Smith,	\$5 00	\$0 00
U. G. L. C. of N. Y.	J. Haas,	5 00	5 00
Dilleburgh, &c.	J. N. Smith,	2 00	1 00
Germantown, &c.	B. C. Lasher,	2 00	0 00
Hartwick,	J. P. Haesbert,	1 00	0 00
New Germantown, &c.	Rev. H. N. Pohlman,	7 00	5 00
Brunswick, &c.	M. Springer,	5 00	0 00
Ghent, &c.	Ph. Ford,	4 00	5 00
Wurtemberg,	F. Dederick,	4 00	0 00
St. James',	P. W. Engs,	5 00	0 00
Palatine, &c.	D. Saltzman,	5 00	0 00
Osquack, &c.	J. Wright,	0 00	5 00
	F. H. Guinther,	2 00	0 00
	Dr. Wackerhagen,	0 00	1 00
		<hr/> \$47 00	<hr/> \$22 00

On motion, adjourned to 2 P. M.

Prayer by the Rev. H. N. Pohlman.

Monday, 2 o'clock P. M.

Prayer by the Secretary.

Dr. Geissenhainer, Chairman of the Committee on the Treasurer's accounts, reported

That the Treasurer's books and vouchers, correctly exhibit a Synodical balance due to him of \$13 75, and a balance of Missionary funds in hand, of \$55 83.

II. *Resolved*, That the Report be accepted and the committee discharged.

The Treasurer stated that he had complied with an order from the Rev. H. Hayunga, and transmitted \$20 by Mr. Frelig, to the Rev. Thos. Kilmer.

Dr. Geissenhainer, Chairman of the Committee on Publications, reported that 1000 copies of Rev. G. B. Miller's Sermon, and the same number of the smaller catechism had been published, and principally distributed, and that the avails, so far as they had come to hand, after defraying the expense of printing, had been paid over to the Treasurer of the Ministerium.

On motion of P. W. Engs,

III. *Resolved*, That the Report be accepted and the Committee continued, for the completion of the objects in their charge.

The House then resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the President's Report, Dr. Geissenhainer in the chair.

After a due consideration of the topics embraced in the Report, the Committee arose, and on motion of the Rev. H. N. Pohlman, seconded by the Secretary, the following preamble and resolutions, were adopted unanimously :

Whereas it has pleased our Heavenly Father to call to his rest the Rev. Senior of this Ministerium Frederic Henry Quitman D. D. Therefore,

IV. Resolved, That this Synod hereby express their deep condolence with the family of the Deceased and their high estimation of his character and services.

V. Resolved, That our Rev. President be requested to furnish a biographical sketch of the Deceased for publication in our minutes. (*See App. D.*)

On motion of the Rev. Eyer, seconded by the Treasurer, it was unanimously,

VI. Resolved, That the Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, D. D. be henceforth honoured as senior of this Ministerium.

The Rev. J. Z. Senderling stated that he and his congregations of Brunswick and Schaghticoke desired permission to dissolve their connexion with this Ministerium for the purpose of Uniting with the Hartwick Synod.

Having read before the Synod resolutions to that effect passed in the church councils of his congregations, it was, on motion of the Treasurer,

VII. Resolved, That their resignation be accepted and our best wishes go with them.

Adjourned to 9 A. M. to-morrow.

Prayer by Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, jr.

In the Evening a Sermon was preached by the Rev. H. I. Smith on 1 John v. 10—13.

Tuesday, Oct. 16, 9 A. M.

The minutes of the two preceding sessions were read and approved.

The Chairman of the committee on the minutes of sister Synods read the following Report, which was adopted, and ordered to be printed. (*See App. B.*)

Dr. Geissenhainer Reported, verbally,

That in pursuance to a resolution of last Synod he attended, as our Delegate, the Synod of Pennsylvania, and was received in the most cordial and fraternal manner, and admitted to a seat and vote in that highly respectable body. It fully appeared to your Delegate from the Synodical Discourse of Dr. Demme, and the proceedings throughout that our brethren of the Pennsylvania Synod preserve and advocate

the pure doctrines of the Gospel unadulterated. While every subject of deliberation receives a free and full debate; these discussions are characterized by a unanimity of spirit truly Christian.

In the course of their proceedings Dr. Demme directed the attention of the brethren to Streit's Legacy. He remarked that although Drs. Nemeyer and Knapp had given their opinion that it extended merely to the Lutheran congregations of the state of Pennsylvania, it appeared to him that other Lutheran congregations were entitled to a share.

Consequently a committee was appointed to investigate the European Legacies, and "to report concerning them as fully as practicable." The report of that committee contains the following passage, which in the opinion of your Delegate claims your attention.

"Every congregation that can prove that it was in existence on the 15th of October, 1753, and belonged to the United Evangelical Lutheran Churches at that time has a claim on the legacy. And although the claims must be few, the Synod should recognize each one that it is thought worth while to present." Whereupon it was,

VIII. Resolved, That a Delegate be appointed to attend the next Synod of Pennsylvania, and that all the congregations in connexion with this Ministerium, which can prove their existence and connexion as United Evangelical Lutheran Churches on the 15th of October, 1753. be instructed to forward the documents proving that fact to the President of this Ministerium who shall place them in the hands of our Delegate to the Pennsylvania Synod.

The President appointed our Rev. Senior Dr. Geissenhainer Delegate from his Body to the next Synod of Pennsylvania. Rev. Wm. D. Strobel, in behalf of the Secretary by whom he had been requested to attend the Examination read the following *Report* on Hartwick Seminary. (*See App. C.*)

IX. Resolved, That the report be accepted.

The President renewed the Committee on Hartwick Seminary by appointing Revs. Strobel, Berger and C. A. Smith.

Report on the case of the Rev. P. W. Domeier "The committee appointed in the case of P. W. Domeier beg leave to Report that they have not thought proper to act in that case—a minority only being present.

(Signed) WM. D. STROBEL,

F. W. GEISSENHAINER, Jr."

X. Resolved, That the Report be accepted and the committee discharged.

On motion of Rev. Wm. D. Strobel the President appointed a committee of 9 to report a plan for the formation of an Education Society.

Adjourned to 3 P. M.

Prayer by the Rev. C. A. Smith.

Tuesday, 3 P. M.

Prayer by the Rev. Wm. D. Strobel. On motion,

XI. *Resolved*, Unanimously, that our Rev. President, Dr. Wackerhagen, attend the Hartwick Synod as a Delegate from this Body.

Rev. Strobel one of the committee to report the plan of an Education Society offered the following:

A committee of 7 shall be appointed to be called the Education Committee.

Our Congregations are to be urged to contribute to the fund now established to be called the Education Fund.

All young men who receive assistance must first have become communicant members of the Lutheran Church.

They shall be required to give a pledge that they will labour under the direction of this Ministerium for one year after licensure if their services be required.

They shall (for the present) be so far advanced in their studies as not to require aid for more than three years.

They shall pursue their studies at Hartwick Seminary, when required. And, when practicable, they shall become acquainted with the German Language.

For the present the Committee shall allow to each student no more than \$75 per annum.

All applicants shall be examined by the Committee, or by members of the committee appointed by them, as to their literary and religious standing.

The chairman of the Committee, by its order, shall be authorized to draw upon the Treasurer for any Education money which may be in his hands.

Whenever a student shall refuse to comply with the terms upon which he was received, he shall refund the money which may have been advanced to him.

The Committee shall hold an annual meeting the day prior to the meeting of the Synod at the same place.

This Committee shall be appointed annually and shall be required to report its proceedings to each meeting of this Synod.

XII. *Resolved*, That the above plan be adopted.

On motion of Mr. Augs. F. Cainmeyer.

XIII. *Resolved*, That all payments made on account of any student shall be secured by his bond for the amount thereof, payable to the order of the President of this Ministerium, but if the said student comply with the requisitions of his pledge, such bond shall be returned to him without any payment on his part.

XIV. *Resolved*, That a copy of the above plan be transmitted by our Rev. President to the respective ministers of this Synod requesting them to make collections in their congregations to aid the purposes intended.

After the passage of the above resolutions the following written pledge was presented by the mover—"The undersigned, Lay-Delegate of the English Congregation of the United German Lutheran Churches of the city of New-York hereby pledges the co-operation of his congregation to the Education Fund now agreed upon by this Synod, and that the sum of \$50, will be awarded by 2d Cong. for that purpose during this year.

(Signed) AUGS. F. CAMMEYER."

Similar pledges were made verbally by the Rev. C. A. Smith, and Messrs. Haas and Engs, Mr. Engs, moreover, deposited \$15, with the Treasurer, as an offering of "first fruits" to the Education Fund, by the Congregation of St. James.

The following constitute the Education Committee for the current year. Dr. Geissenhainer, Revds. Mayer, Strobel, Pohlman, Berger, and Messrs. Engs and Cammeyer.

XV. *Resolved*, That the Rev. President, and the Principal of Hartwick be, ex-officiis, and act as members of this committee.

XVI. *Resolved*, That the Education Committee assume the duties of the "Committee on vacant congregations and Missionary concerns."

The Secretary having read the motions suggested in the Rev. C. B. Thuemmel's communication, it was,

XVII. *Resolved*, That a copy of the minutes of this Synod be annually transmitted by the Secretary to the Theological Society of Hartwick Seminary.

XVIII. *Resolved*, That our sister Synods of the Lutheran Church in the United States be requested to forward through their Secretaries annually a copy of their respective minutes to the Theological Society of Hartwick Seminary, N. Y.

XIX. *Resolved*, That the number of minutes printed annually be 500 and their distribution left to the discretion of the Secretary.

The Rev. Wm. J. Eyer gave the members of the Ministerium an invitation to hold their next Synod in his congregation at Wurtemberg, Dutchess Co.

Messrs. Engs, in behalf of St. James' and Haas and Cammeyer, in behalf of St Matthews' New-York city gave similar invitations.

By a division of the House it was decided in favour of St. Matthews'.

XX. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Body be expressed this evening by the President to the *Pastor Loci*, and his congregation for the kind hospitality and friendly feelings they have manifested to us during our present Synod.

XXI. *Resolved*, That this Synod now adjourn to meet at St. Matthews Church in the city of New-York on the Saturday preceding the 2nd Sunday in September, 1833.

The Brethren united in singing the Christian Farewell, and joined in humble prayer with the Rev. President.

Ministerial Session.

Monday, 12 M.

Prayer by the *Pastor Loci*.

The President laid upon the table 3 sermons by Mr. Pirscher, and the license given him during the recess.

Also 2 sermons by Mr. Denninger, and a French translation of Luther's Catechism which he requests the Synod to publish.

The President likewise read a Certificate from the congregations under the pastoral care of Mr. Denninger expressing high satisfaction with his labours among them, and requesting the renewal of his license.

Candidate L. Swackhammer informed the Ministerium that he had taken charge of the congregations of Reimschneider's Bush, Osquack and Anderstown, *Herkimer Co.* and applied through the Rev. Wm. D. Strobel for ordination. Mr. Pirscher, through the Rev F. G. Mayer also applied for ordination.

On motion of the Rev. H. N. Pohlman.

I. *Resolved*, That Candidate L. Swackhammer be invited to a friendly colloquium with the Brethren.

As Mr. Pirscher had only been licensed by the President *ad interim* it was decided that according to Ch. vi. § 4 of the Constitution he could only be proposed for examination.

Adjourned.

Prayer by Pastor Geissenhainer, jr.

Tuesday, 12 M.

The Candidate L. Swackhammer was invited to a friendly colloquium, in which the subjects of Preaching, the Paternal character of God, the nature of the Gospel, Faith and Repentance were made the topics of an interesting discussion. After the Lay-delegates and the Candidate had retired the clerical Brethren constituted a session *Strictly Ministerial*.

It having been found, on inquiry, that the candidate L. Swackhammer's ordination had not been *constitutionally* required, either by a written application, or by a Call from the congregation in which he is engaged it was,

II. Resolved, That his License be renewed indefinitely, and presented to him this evening publicly after Divine Service.

The President read a letter from Mr. Pirscher withdrawing his application for ordination, and requesting his certificate of Licensure to be returned; but as he had not presented himself for examination before the Synod, this request could not be complied with.

The Documents transmitted to the Secretary in relation to an unhappy difference between Candidate Denninger, and a former member of his Congregation were then read.

III. Resolved, That our Rev. President, by letter, exhort the parties to mutual reconciliation.

The Brethren regret that the state of our Synodical fund will neither warrant the publication of the French Translation of Luther's Catechism; nor afford pecuniary aid to destitute congregations.

The apology of Mr. Denninger for non-attendance having been accepted and his Certificate and Parochial Report affording satisfactory evidence of his Ministerial activity and usefulness, it was on motion of the Secretary.

IV. Resolved, That Chas. E. Denninger's License granted, by the President, during the recess, remain in full force and virtue until the next Synod of this Ministerium.

Adjourned.

Prayer by our Rev. Senior.

In the Evening the Rev. Wm. D. Strobel preached on Mark xvi. 15.—“ Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature.”

At the close of Divine Service the President delivered renewed letters of License to the Candidate, Lambert Swackhammer, accompanied by his affectionate counsel and prayers.

The thanks of the Synod were then expressed to the *Pastor Loci*, and his congregation; and the solemnities closed with the Benediction.

I certify, that the foregoing is a true copy from the Records of the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium, of the State of New-York and adjacent parts.

J. BERGER, *Secretary.*

APPENDIX.

A.

President's Report to Synod, Albany, October 15th, 1832.

At last, my Brethren, the auspicious day has arrived, where, by a merciful Providence, we are permitted and enabled, to meet each other with cheerful countenances and grateful hearts, congratulating each other and this good city, that the Lord in his chastisement has remembered mercy and bid the pestilence to depart from us. My heart was fluctuating between fear and hope, when the appointed time drew near, at which, viz. on the second Lord's day of September last, this Synod was to meet in this city. Finally, upon mature consideration and with the concurrence of some of the Brethren, our meeting was postponed to this day, which, I hope, will meet the approbation of this body. It adds greatly to my happiness to see, that the usual state of health is once more vouchsafed to this city and to the country around, and that, without fear or terror, we behold those streets crowded again with cheerful life and activity, which so lately echoed the appalling sound of the lonely hearse, and those temples thronged by a grateful crowd, which so lately were, in a great measure, deserted. It is a matter of no small congratulation and gladness to know, that the prevailing epidemic has not thinned our ranks, but that we are spared, to celebrate the mercy of the Lord our God, and, together with his people, to rejoice in his goodness and still to serve him with renewed zeal and fidelity. Here, however, it is my painful duty, in anticipation of the chronological order of my report to you, to advert to the lamented death of the late venerable Senior of our Synod, the Rev. Doctor Frederick Henry Quitman, of Rhinebeck, who on Tuesday, 26th of June, of the present year, departed this life in tranquil and easy death, after a period of painful illness, protracted nearly through the space of four years. At his death he had nearly completed the 72d year of his age. From the year 1796, the Rev. Mr. Quitman had been a regular member, for a few years Secretary, through many successive terms President, and, in his latter years, Senior of this Ministerium. His life was spent in untired activity and useful labors in the cause, in which he was engaged. May his memory long be cherished and respected among us, and his manly energy and exemplary activity imitated.

In the course of the synodical year, which has now run to a close, our church has experienced the same fostering care from our heavenly Father, which has hitherto prospered our small Zion. I now proceed to lay before you the detail of the events, which have taken place within our limits in the past year.

I forbear to enlarge upon the proceedings of the Committee on publications which met in New York in the month of September of last year, since their report will give you all the necessary information on the success of their labors.

In the same month of September our Brother, the Rev. Mr. Strobel, was solemnly inducted into his new office of Pastor of St. James' church, New-York, at which solemnities our Rev. Brethren Dr. Mayer, and Messrs. Miller and Pohlman, assisted.

In the month of Nov. our Brother Hayunga, communicated to me the highly pleasing information of his safe return from the West Indies and Europe, to this country, and of his purpose, forthwith to resume his charges in Upper Canada.

In the course of the winter, I received letters from Mr. W. Pirscher, a Candidate of Divinity from Germany, and, at that time, Librarian at the Military Academy at West Point, expressing his desire to receive licence to preach the Gospel and administer the sacraments to a small religious society of Germans living in the vicinity of West Point. Mr. Pirscher's letter to me enclosed highly favorable commendations from the Rev. Dr. Geissenhainer, and the Rev. Professor Lehman. A sudden indisposition prevented Mr. P. at the time, from undertaking the journey to my place of residence.

In the spring of the year 1832, however, Mr. Pirscher, then and still at this time, assistant teacher at the Berkshire Gymnasium, in Pittsfield, gave me the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with him, in consequence of which, and of a highly satisfactory examination, I hesitated not, to supply him with the desired licence.

Previous to that transaction, the Rev. Emanuel Denninger, of Strasburg, warmly recommended by the Rev. Dr. Geissenhainer, presented himself to me for examination and licence, having received a call from the congregations at Evans Mills, Pamela, German-settlement, Le Ray, and Lafargeville, Jefferson Co. in which congregations Mr. D. had already spent some time and preached to them in both the German and French languages. After due examination, I gave Mr. D. licence, to continue his labors among those congregations. There appears to be a flattering prospect, that our branch of the church of the Redeemer, will grow and flourish in those northern parts of this State, if duly attended to.

Upon the return of the Rev. Mr. Hayunga to his congregations, he received from them, and accepted of a renewed call for three years.

In the summer last past, I received letters from the Rev. Mr. Denninger, inclosing others from his congregations, the latter expressing their entire satisfaction with the labors of Mr. D. and their desire, that he may continue among them, the former informing me, that another French Lutheran congregation is forming at Mexico-Colosse, Oswego Co. Mr. D. has prepared for the use of his French parishioners a translation of Dr. Luther's small Catechism in the French Language, a copy of which he has sent to me, in the hope, that it may be printed by order and at the expense of our Synod, himself and his French parishioners finding themselves utterly unable to

defray the expenses required for the printing and binding. All the congregations of Mr. D. according to his and their own statements, are very much depressed by present indigence, being almost altogether new comers, and quite recent settlers in this country.

In later letters received from Mr. D. he, seconded by his Vestry, excuses himself for absence from this Synod, owing to bodily injury, recently received by a fall from his horse. Mr. D. sends his Parochial Reports accompanied by two manuscript sermons, one in the French, the other in the German language, and prays to receive licensure from this Ministerium. Both Mr. D. and his congregations invoke the aid of this Synod for the raising of a church and parsonage at Evans mills, and for a supply of Bibles and other religious books in both languages.

From the Rev. Mr. Domeier, I have received information, that his congregation at Dilleburg, are making preparations for the building of a new church.

These, my Brethren, are the chief events, which have appeared to me to be deserving of your notice. God grant, that our present meeting be for good! May the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ, the spirit of love and peace, occupy our hearts, and control all our words and actions! May wisdom from above enlighten our minds, enlarge our views, and aid and prosper our proceedings! May the true, the simple and undefiled religion of the Gospel be increased and spread by our united and individual endeavors to the glory of God and the welfare of men! Amen.

(Signed) AUGS. WACKERHAGEN, *President.*

B.

The Committee appointed to examine and report upon the several minutes of other Synods presented to this Ministerium, ask leave to offer the following as what they consider proper to select from the same.

The Synod of S. Carolina & Georgia,

Held their last meeting at Sandy Run, on 9th Dec. 1831.—This body appears to manifest great zeal in the cause of Evangelical truth. It is now composed of 11 Ministers and 27 Churches, which report during the past year 355 Baptisms, 251 Confirmations, 1748 Communicants. They are still going on in the establishing of their Seminary, which will probably obtain a permanent footing in a few years. \$716, was contributed to the Synodical fund during the past year by the members of that small body, for the promotion of missionary and education purposes, an example worthy the imitation of all our churches.

Synod of Virginia,

Was convened at Zion's Church, Botetourt County, on 15th Oct. 1831.—It is composed of 8 Ministers, and 28 Churches, which report 551 Baptisms, 90 Confirmations, 2007 Communicants.

Synod of Pennsylvania,

Assembled at the Ev. Luth. Church, at Wommelsdorf, on Trinity Sunday, 1832.—It is composed of 50 Ministers, 35 of whom handed in reports from 152 Congregations, in which they had Baptised 4097, Confirmed 1092, Communed 20812. Rev. Mr. Hecht was appointed delegate to this Synod, and we perceive, that a committee was appointed for the laudable purpose of sketching a plan for a society for the support of the widows of indigent clergymen.*

Synod of West Pennsylvania,

Met at Indiana, Indiana County, from 9th to 14th Oct. 1831.—Ministers 32, Congregations 104, Infants Baptised 1699, Adults 100, Confirmed 733, Communicants 6902, Funerals 321, Weekly Schools 52, Sunday Schools 45. It was stated that “The Rev. Messrs. Heyer and Sherrets, had made application in behalf of the Greensburg Conference, for a part of the interest of the European legacy.” \$350 was received to support indigent pious students at Gettysburg. A Committee to draft a sketch of the doctrines and history of the Ev. Luth. Church in the United States, and procure its insertion in the next edition of Buck’s Theological Dictionary.

Hartwick Synod,

Met at Johnstown, 24 Sept. 1831.—This Synod is divided into two Conferences, called the Eastern and Western Conferences. The Parochial Reports of the Ministers, and the state of the Churches in connection with that Synod are as follows. Ministers 14, Congregations 32, Baptisms 609, Confirmed 173, Communicants 2087, Sunday Schools 7, Missionaries 5, Candidates Ordained 2, Licensed Students 2, Contributions \$98.

Synod of Ohio,

Convened at Canton, on Trinity Sunday A. D. 1831. Congregations 126, Baptisms 2172, Confirmed 720, Communicants 8388, Burials 298, Schools 74, Ministers 23, Licentiates 6. They are divided into 2 distinct Synods, to assemble separately, for two successive years; but to unite every third year in a general Session of both combined. We rejoice that the Rev. members of this body, collectively and individually exhibit a commendable zeal in extending the Redeemer’s Kingdom, and preserving a spirit of Christian charity and brotherly love, in all their official transactions.

(Signed) F. W. GEISSENHAINER, Jr.
 H. I. SMITH,
 WM. D. STROBEL,
 P. W. ENGS,
 J. P. HAESBERT.

* The Rev. Dr. Geissenhainer, as delegate from this Synod, was present, and admitted to the privilege of a seat and vote.

C.

Report on Hartwick Seminary.

Having been requested by the Rev. Secretary, in the absence of the committee to attend the exercises of the annual commencement of Hartwick Seminary, I beg leave to report to the Synod that I was present on that occasion and had the pleasure of attending the examinations and exhibitions of the students. The anniversary of the Philophronean Society was celebrated on the evening of the 28th of August. A large audience attended. Orations were delivered by nine young gentlemen which did much credit to themselves as well as to the institution.

I also attended the examination of the Theological class which is at present composed of 8 students. The annual commencement was celebrated in the evening, when suitable addresses were delivered by Messrs. Haesbert, R. Dedrick, Stover, and S. Dedrick.

The income of the institution during the past year was about \$1700, and the expenses \$1400.

In consequence of the prevalent Disease a bare quorum of the Trustees was formed, and no measures were consequently adopted for the further improvement of the institution.

(Signed) WM. D. STROBEL.

D.

Biography of Rev. Dr. Quitman.

Frederick Henry Quitman was born August 7, 1760, in the Duchy of Cleves in Westphalia. Manifesting at an early age superior talents and application to study, he was placed by his father, who held a considerable office under the Prussian government, in the celebrated school of Halle, and thence transferred to the university of the same city. Under the guidance of Knapp, Noesselt, Niemeyer, Semler, and other eminent professors in that distinguished seat of learning, he made a rapid progress in the various branches of Theology, to which he had devoted himself, notwithstanding the opposition of his nearest relatives. After completing his academic course with honor and spending two years as a private instructor in the family of the Prince of Waldeck, he became connected with the Lutheran Consistory of the United Provinces, and was ordained by that body pastor of the Lutheran congregation, in the island of Curacao, one of its dependencies. In this situation he remained, useful, respected, and happy, for the space of fourteen years, till the summer of 1795, when political convulsions induced him to convey his wife and children to New-York, with the intention of returning thence after a short time to Holland. But an overruling Providence frustrated this design, and opened to him a far more extensive field of action in our own land; first, in the associated churches of Schoharie and Cobles Kill; and afterwards in those of Rhinebeck, Wurtemberg, Germantown and Livingston. In 1815 he relinquished the charge of the last two of these churches, having prevailed upon them to call a minister for themselves; and in 1824, that of the church of Wurtemberg in

consequence of increasing infirmities. Four years subsequently, he was compelled by the same cause, to the deep regret of his parishioners, to retire from all public labors. Growing weakness and disease confined him to his dwelling and chamber until the 26th of June last, when it pleased the parent of mercies to release him by the hand of death from the sorrows and troubles of this changeful world. He was twice married, and has left behind three daughters and four sons, one of whom fills the station of Chancellor of the State of Mississippi.

After the decease of the venerable Dr. Kunze, Mr. Quitman was raised to the Presidency of the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of the State of New-York; to which from one term of office to another, he was unanimously re-elected, until in 1825, he declined the appointment from inability to travel. In 1811 he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from the university of Harvard. And he continued at the head of the Board of Trustees of Hartwick Seminary, through the partiality of his colleagues, so long as the condition of his health permitted him to attend their meetings.

The subject of this brief memoir possessed in a frame of uncommon vigor, a mind of extraordinary power. Gifted with an astonishing memory, an acute judgment, untiring industry, he gathered for himself and others large stores of general knowledge, and especially of Theological science. As a preacher, he was universally confessed to be mighty in the scriptures, convincing, eloquent, pathetic; and as a chatechist, few in our country have equalled him. Besides the toilsome functions of a pastor, he assumed those of a teacher both of sacred and of classical literature, and was rarely without students in one or other of these departments. Long before missionary efforts were employed by our communion in the State of New-York, and whilst the number of its clergymen was very small, he was accustomed to pay an annual visit to destitute settlements and new societies; daily dispensing the word of salvation, and administering the ordinances of the gospel, through a circuit of from one to two hundred miles. His dwelling was the abode of hospitality; and his conversation, independently of the information it yielded, was marked by pleasantry, good humor, and very unusual variety of topic and illustration. One of the most striking traits of his character, was a frankness, that abhorred all concealment and artifice. Although constitutionally ardent, and occasionally betrayed into vehemence by collision with minds of similar ardor, he cherished no feelings of ill will toward any, and gladly acknowledged merit wherever he discerned it. The fear of man or the fear of consequences never drove him from a purpose formed under the conviction of duty. And whilst liberal in his principles, and most heartily opposed to schemes that seem to favor the imposition of a yoke upon the brethren, he was nevertheless equally averse from controversy, and from all tendencies to lawlessness and confusion. His grand aim in the sacred desk, was the inculcation of the plain, but practical and mighty truths and lessons of the religion of a crucified and exalted Redeemer.

What amount of good resulted from the services of our departed friend, cannot now be fully known, and will be disclosed in the final issue of human affairs. His example of indefatigable diligence, whilst enabled to work in the vineyard of the Lord, is well adapted to stimulate the zeal of those who have succeeded him in the same momentous vocation. And the last years of his life, though cheered by domestic affection and christian hope, present an instance, calculated to inspire habitual humility and prayerful dependence on God, of the feebleness and imbecility, to which, in his unsearchable wisdom, many of the most richly endowed among his children are suffered to be cast down.—*Lutheran Observer.*

M.